

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 110, 115-124, and 128 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,897,562 to Bolanos (“*Bolanos*”); rejected claims 125-127 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bolanos* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,403,326 to Harrison (“*Harrison*”); and allowed claims 113, 114, 129, 130, and 133-139.

By this Reply, Applicant has amended claims 110, 114, 116, 125, and 136 and canceled claim 113. No new matter has been added by this reply.

In the Office Action, claims 110, 115-124, and 128 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bolanos* and claims 125-127 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bolanos* in view of *Harrison*. Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with these rejections, Applicant has amended independent claim 110 to include the features of previous claim 113 that were indicated as allowable in the Office Action. (See Office Action at 8.) Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 110 is allowable. Claims 115-128 are also allowable at least due to their dependence from allowable independent claim 110 and due to their additional recitations of patentable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are allowable and requests that the Examiner withdraw the Section 103 rejections and allow the claims.

The Examiner made characterizations and assertions about the claims and the related prior art in the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. Although Applicant agrees with the Examiner's ultimate conclusions that the claims are patentable because the prior art does not teach or suggest the claimed features set forth in the claims, Applicant does not necessarily agree with each or every characterization and assertion contained in the Examiner's statement.

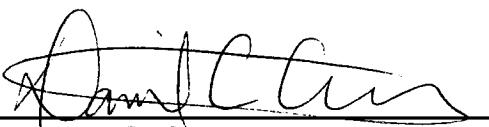
Furthermore, it is understood that the Examiner's characterizations were for purposes of referring to the prior art, and do not in any way imply that the claims are limited by words not actually present in the claims. Therefore, unless expressly noted otherwise, Applicant declines to subscribe to any statement or characterization contained in the statement of reasons for allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By: 

Daniel C. Cooley
Reg. No. 59,639
(202) 408-4000